



## SCHOOL UPDATES & REMINDERS

### RECEPTION CLASS AND YEAR 3 ISOLATION - UPDATE:

We have had no further positive cases of COVID-19 reported among pupils and staff in school or under isolation at home since the two initial cases reported on Saturday (14.11.20).

Pupils and staff in Reception and Y3 are scheduled to return to school on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> November.

Thank you for your words of support and encouragement this past week, and for remaining calm and pragmatic about these first confirmed cases at St Mary's – thus allowing school life to continue as normal.

### THE FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING – NATIONAL YOUTH SUNDAY:

This weekend marks the final Sunday in the Church's calendar, the Feast of Christ the Universal King. On this Feast Day, we celebrate Youth Sunday – a day on which we recognise the role that young people play in the life of the Church.

This year will signify a year like no other; with no opportunity to attend Mass in person or to involve our young people in its leadership as we normally would. However, this does not mean that we should not still celebrate and give thanks for our young people. The theme of this year's National Youth Sunday is *Together*. In these enduring times of lockdown, restriction and isolation, we yearn for a physical togetherness: human connection, people and community. On this glorious Feast Day, we remember that this is exactly the *Church* that, through his birth, life, ministry, death and resurrection, Jesus Christ came to exemplify for us. We are the Church, and our young people its future; on National Youth Sunday, may we come together in unity to pray for a future in which we all work more tirelessly to ensure the vibrancy and security of our worshipping communities, Catholic schools and Youth Ministry.

There are a number of online resources available for you to celebrate the Feast of Christ the King with your families this weekend at <https://nationalyouthsunday.com/foryourfamily/>.

### PARISH GIFT FOR LIFE APPEALS:

The Parish Gift for Life is an umbrella group which oversees a number of charitable projects supported by the Parish of Our Lady and St Philip Neri – both abroad (Kenya, India) and at home. This year they are selling some beautiful Christmas cards and 2021 calendars showcasing the photography skills of members of the parish. Cards are priced at £3.50 for a pack of 8 and calendars at £4 – both with free delivery to your door by one of the GfL team! To order, please email [giftforlife20@gmail.com](mailto:giftforlife20@gmail.com) or phone 07896096747. Please do consider supporting the charitable aims of the group by making an order, and feel free to tell your friends and family to do so too! Thank you!

### YOUTH SPORT TRUST AFTER-SCHOOL CLUB:

During this time of national lockdown, the Youth Sport Trust are here to help young people feel part of a club that helps them develop skills and learn something new. With their *After School Sport Club*, children can develop physical literacy and confidence to try lots of new sports, helping all children find a sport for them.

The After School Sport Club will be led by Athlete Mentors from different backgrounds, abilities and sports. Every day at 5pm from 16 November until 18 December, children and young people can join in with the

live broadcast for free on the Youth Sport Trust's YouTube channel (<https://www.youtube.com/user/YouthSportTrust>).

The different daily themes for the week's activities are:

- Adventure Monday – This might involve getting children to do floor, wall climbing and map reading all within their living room.
- Tuesday Play – Imaginative play utilising resources in the house to create games and activities to get active.
- Wild Wednesday – Some high tempo competitive activities involving personal challenges.
- Thinking Thursday – Introducing cognitive challenges for children through movement. Active noughts and crosses and introducing an element of competition – whether that be against themselves, the clock, their siblings or remotely with friends.
- Fun Friday – A chance for children to let loose and have some fun. Dancing and doing what makes them feel good.

You can find out more information about the Youth Sport Trust and its After School Sport Club at <https://www.youthsporttrust.org/AfterSchoolSportClub>.

